

~~OFFICE OF THE~~
~~SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH~~
RICHMOND, VA.

Richmond, Va.
April 3, 1928.

Mr. Jena Cuthbert Collier,
Barnesville,
Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I am extremely sorry that I did not understand when I published my first two volumes who was the compiler of the data which Mrs. Comer sent to me and gave me the privilege of using.

After the books were out I saw Mrs. Comer, and she told me then that she was sorry I had connected her name to it, as some one else had done all the work. I supposed that she or her cousin had paid some genealogist for the work, so let it remain as it stood.

Of course the books had gone onto the market, and I thought everything was right. Mrs. Comer is a very conscientious person, and would never seek to take credit which is not her own. I simply never questioned how she obtained the data; thought it had come to her in such way as one sometimes gets such things; by their own research and contribution of others, or from an employed genealogist.

Having her consent, I published it as a contribution from her, as I did some of my own D.A.R. lineages you may find in the book, which I asked my client's consent, before I published as "contributed" by them, when they had not done the work, but I had.

It is very kind of you to so leniently "let me out" of this embarrassment, by asking me to "give you the proper credit" in any future reprint. I shall be glad to do so, and am sure that Mrs. Comer would much prefer to have me do so.

I am about finishing my third volume of records of Va. Soldiers of 1776, and submit to you this correction (on separate paper).

I do not intend to include in the third volume data of date prior to Revolution, but in the case of the "Georgia Colliers", with your consent; would very much like to print the copy you sent in your letter, and if you have no other purpose plan for using your Greene, Cuthbert, Means and Booker--Revolutionary descent; I would count it a great favor and addition; if you will "contribute" some of that, leading to yourself, and with this; my correction of the former data, would strengthen my books rather than weaken them. I will be grateful.

I have the pleasure of the friendship of Dr. Eggleston, and he spoke of you the other day, saying he had found something to send you that would please you. I believe it was Revolutionary "Public Claim", for Vines Collier, which allows D.A.R. and S.A.R. membership on him.

I think it was you, or perhaps Mr. Collier of Richmond.

Now if you will be kind to tell me if this correction will be satisfactory, and what you may decide about the lines you mentioned.

Please do not think Mrs. Comer was ungracious, for she is very gracious, and it was simply misunderstanding on my part as I did not know the author of the work; only that she gave it to me, and I naturally thought it right to attribute it to her.

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The Georgia Colliers.

Note. on pages 83-85, Va. Soldiers of '76 is given a contribution from a member of the Collier family. After the books were printed, my kind contributor informed me that this splendid compilation was not the result of her research, but was the hard work and a trip to England of another member of the family which made it possible for us to have so much of this data.

The Georgia Colliers.

On pages 83-85 of Va. Soldiers of 1776, credit was not given to the compiler of this carefully prepared data. Mr. Jena Cuthbert Collier, of Barnesville, Georgia has very kindly advised me of his work here and in England to perfect the research, and I wish most sincerely, as does my contributor, to give Mr Collier credit for the work.

Mr. Jena Collier has secured a large volume of data on his family, together with information concerning the Greene, Means and Booker families, to which he also belongs, and I am hopeful that he will consent to contribute at least that portion relative to his Revolutionary ancestors, to volume three of Virginia Soldiers of 1776.

I am sure many of my subscribers would be grateful to possess this information of these interesting families.

Does the above meet with your approval, or would you suggest something else. I thought of adding to the above--My contributor informs me that I failed to give credit to the compiler of the data given on pages 83-85, Va. Soldiers of 1776,

I do not wish to have persons think Mrs. Comer was in any way inclined to take credit for something which she disclaimed to me.

You give a reference on second page of your copy which I do not understand. Va. Mag. Hist. Vol. II p. 278, and Wm. and Mary Quar. VIII, 202 and 25557-IXA' 18385.

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Please let me hear from you, and I thank you for your letter. I will send you proof of print, and ask you to make any corrections you may think best.

Very truly yours,

Louis A. Burgess
Louis A. Burgess.

212 West Broad St